



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS – MARCH 1, 2015

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

As of March 1, New Mexico growers intend to plant 140,000 acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2015, up 15,000 acres and 12 percent above last year's plantings, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. **Sorghum** intentions total 100,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from plantings last year. **Winter wheat** seedings last fall for harvest in 2015 are estimated at 370,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from the 2014 crop. **Hay** producers in the State intend to harvest 305,000 acres this year. This is unchanged from the acreage cut for hay in 2014.

Peanut acreage is expected to total 5,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Producers intend to plant 40,000 acres of **all cotton** in 2015, a decrease of 17 percent from last year. Of that, 35,000 acres are **upland** cotton, and 5,000 acres are **American Pima** cotton. **Dry edible bean** acreage is expected to total 8,000 acres, down 24 percent from the 10,500 acres planted in 2014.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010.

Sorghum growers intend to plant 7.90 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 2015, up 11 percent from last year. Kansas and Texas, the leading sorghum producing States, account for 75 percent of the expected United States acreage. As of March 22, Texas growers had only planted 7 percent of their crop, 7 percentage points behind last year and 21 points behind the 5-year average.

All wheat planted area for 2015 is estimated at 55.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2014. The 2015 winter wheat planted area, at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter.

Producers intend to harvest 57.1 million acres of **all dry hay** in 2015, virtually unchanged from 2014. Hay acreage is expected to increase in the Mid-Atlantic and Central Plains. However, this is offset by expected decreases across the Southern and Pacific States, as well as in the Upper Midwest. Record high acreage is expected in Louisiana. Record low acreage is expected in California, Illinois, Minnesota, and Ohio.

Peanut growers intend to plant 1.48 million acres in 2015, up 9 percent from the previous year. The expected increase in planted area is mainly due to relatively low prices of other crops, especially cotton. In Georgia, the largest peanut-producing State, planted area is expected to be up 20 percent from 2014. If realized, planted acres in South Carolina will be a record high.

All cotton planted area for 2015 is estimated at 9.55 million acres, 13 percent below last year. Upland area is estimated at 9.40 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. American Pima area is estimated at 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

Area planted to **dry beans** in 2015 is expected to be 1.74 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous season.

For a full copy of the *Prospective Plantings* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov